

[0066] Additionally, in this grip, as clarified from Fig. 6, the tip portion of the trigger 13 is placed naturally at the point where the user's fourth finger attaches to the palm (portion in the vicinity of the point where the fourth finger intersects the palm), or at the end of the palm. Furthermore, the longest distance from the thumb, which is placed on the reel, to the finger, which is placed on the trigger, becomes greater than in the case of the conventional trigger "f". Therefore, the fishing rod can be easily supported.

[0067] A comparison can be made between Fig. 14(A) showing palming when using a conventional trigger "f" and Fig. 14(B) showing palming when using the trigger 13 related to this embodiment (the reels "c" and 31 are the same). A distance "d" exists from the top portion of the reel "c" and 31 to the center axis of the body "b" and 3. A distance d1' exists from the user's fourth finger, placed in the vicinity of the tip of the trigger 13, to the center axis of the body 3 and is several times longer than the distance d1, from the user's finger placed in the conventional trigger "f" (the fourth or middle finger) to the center axis of the body "b". Therefore, a force which prevents rotating of the fishing rod 21 in the axis rotation direction can be much smaller. Also, the fatigue of palming for long hours can be extremely reduced.

[0068] Additionally, in this grip, the trigger 13 is not sandwiched between the user's fingers, so finger pain can be avoided.

2. Second embodiment Figs. 7 and 8

[0069] Figs. 7 and 8 show a fishing rod reel seat 1A related to a second embodiment. The difference between this reel seat 1A and the reel seat 1, shown in the first embodiment, is mainly the trigger inclination. Therefore, an explanation will be given for the differences only. Other portions, which are similar to previously described portions, use the same numerals as the similar portions in the drawings, or numerals with ' (prime) are used. An explanation of the similar portions is omitted.

[0070] The shape of the trigger 13' in the reel seat 1a in the second embodiment is a shape which is appropriate for a fishing rod mainly used for bass fishing. The inclination angle of the trigger 13 (opening angle which is downward and backward with respect to a direction perpendicular to the center axis X-X of the body 3) is about 50°. This is larger than the inclination angle of the trigger 13, for the following reasons. In contrast to boat fishing, in bass fishing, a fishing rod end is

hardly ever sandwiched under the arm, and various postures are used to grip a fishing rod by one hand. Therefore, large bending of a wrist is not needed.

[0071] Furthermore, with respect to the front surface 13'a of the trigger 13', the overall front surface is substantially extended at about 50° in a linear manner.

5 Therefore, as shown in Fig. 8, the aligning direction of a user's two fingers placed on the front surface 13'a, is substantially the same as the direction of the front surface 13'a.

[0072] Thus, embodiments of this invention are explained. Specific structure of this invention is not limited to these embodiments. Design changes, or the like, within the scope of the claims of this invention, are also included in this invention.

[0073] For example, in this embodiment, a trigger is integrally formed with a body of a reel seat, but the trigger in this invention can also be formed separately from a reel seat. A shape of the reel seat is not limited to a pipe shape. A so-called plate shape or any other suitable shape may be used.

[0074] Thus, according to a fishing rod reel seat and a fishing rod of this invention, a fishing rod can be firmly gripped by a user placing two fingers on a trigger without bending an elbow or wrist to an unnatural position. Therefore, a user can apply a sufficient gripping force and the fishing rod can be stably held.

20 Accordingly, control during casting is easy, and a strong swing is also possible.

[0075] Furthermore, during palming, in a state in which a user's thumb is placed on the top end of the periphery of the side wall of the reel, the remaining four fingers can hold the fishing rod so as to support a body of a reel seat and the fishing rod body in front of a trigger, which was not conventionally possible. In this gripping method, the user's wrist is not bent to an unnatural position, and there is no pain in the fingers because a trigger does not have to be sandwiched between fingers.

25 Additionally, a distance between a user's finger (fourth finger) placed at the tip of the trigger or in the vicinity of the tip end of the trigger and the tip of the thumb placed on the reel can be extended. In particular, depending on placement of the user's fourth

30 finger, an external end of the palm (a portion in the vicinity of point where the fourth finger intersects the palm) contacts the side surface of the trigger, so even simply because of this, rotating of the fishing rod in the axis rotation direction can be easily

prevented. Therefore, the force required to grip a fishing rod is reduced, so palming for long hours can be easily performed.

5 [0076] According to one exemplary embodiment of the invention, during palming, even in a state where a user places four fingers (the index finger through the fourth finger) in front of the trigger, the shape is such that the tip of the thumb can be placed naturally around the top end of the periphery of the side wall of the reel where the thumb can be easily extended.

10 [0077] According to another exemplary embodiment of the invention, a user's finger placed in the trigger can be substantially prevented from slipping off of the front surface.

FIG. 10 is a side view of the fishing rod according to the present invention.